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- The definition of “Sharing Economy” is not clear especially as it relates to “on-demand economy”, “the gig economy”, “the DIY economy”, or “crowd based economy”. The European Parliament defines the sharing economy as “The use of digital platforms or portals to reduce the scale for viable hiring transactions or viable participation in consumer hiring markets […] thereby reduce the extent to which assets are under-utilized” (Murillo, 2)

- SE is particular type of platform capitalism - “Platform capitalism”: a market place for the hire of assets and services that would otherwise be underutilized or not even recognized as such, normally as a discount to those charged by traditional incumbents.

- Platform: a set of online digital arrangements whose algorithms serve to organize and structure economic and social activity.

- Platforms are highly unequal, due to venture capitalism, SE companies have the same strong incentives to eliminate competitors and establish monopolistic markets as any other segment of the economy, in contrary to the idea that SE is a grassroots initiative, and a democratic ideal. (Murillo, 4) ex. Is the purchase of Lyft and Zipcar by Avis an example of “sharing”?

- Traditional companies are adapting to the models of collaborative culture.

- The SE is an example of a pure profit-based capitalistic economy in its earliest form.

- despite the attractive label and the entrepreneurial successes of companies like Uber or Airbnb, success is based more on their capacity to monetize human effort than on the sharing component.” Platform workers move in and out of jobs with no secure role in the market, no occupational identity, and little future perspective. This is a shift away from contract work and towards shirt-term freelance work. (Murillo, 6)

- Around 60% of workers claim to use the SE for less than 50% of their household income. Insufficient pay was identified as the main reason for leaving this type of work (43%) and not finding enough work was the main cause of dissatisfaction (49%). (6)

- “If this on-demand economy can allocate resources more efficiently than the state, what is the implicit corollary of this statement? The benefits that markets provide are not necessarily the same as those that government action might achieve. It is against the interest of platforms to co-operate with law enforcement. (5)

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Douglass Shand-Tucci, *Built in Boston*, (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1999), 101-130.